

MAY BE FORCED TO EVACUATE HARBIN ALSO

Already Women and Children Are Beginning to Leave This Russian Stronghold in Manchuria For Safer Place.

JAPANESE ARE SWEEPING ONWARD

Reported in St. Petersburg Kuroki is Moving Northeastward--The Weakness of General Linevitch's Position Shown.

Guntruang, Manchuria, March 24.—Russian officers connected with headquarters staff seem convinced that General Kuroki is coming northeast with the intention of investing Vladivostok.

RUSSIA MAY RETIRE BEYOND HARBIN.

Vladivostok May Be the Only Place Left to the Czar in Manchuria — Strategic Weakness of Linevitch Made Apparent.

St. Petersburg, March 24.—The possibility that if the Russian army should be unable to hold the lower line of the Sungari river at Chumchiatui it may be compelled to retreat not only to Harbin but also further westward along the railroad, abandoning to the Japanese northern Manchuria and the Russian maritime provinces as well, is the latest startling news from the front.

The strategic weakness of General Linevitch's position as he falls back northward is made clear by a Gushu dispatch in which it is pointed out that unless the Chumchiatui and Sungari lines, a scant 100 miles below Harbin, can be held, it will be difficult to maintain a position farther back before Harbin, where, with the front of the army paralleling the railroad, the practicability of a turning movement to completely destroy the communications, 6,000 miles from home, is too serious for Russian consideration.

In view of this possibility, the dispatch alluded to suggests the advisability of immediately providing Vladivostok with war munitions and supplies for a two years' siege. The correspondent estimates the number of reinforcements needed to give General Linevitch the requisite superiority in force, at 200,000.

That such a dispatch should have been permitted to pass the censor at the front, is significant, and if General Linevitch has communicated a similar statement of the situation direct to Emperor Nicholas, it may account for his majesty's increased disposition to listen to peace counsels and open negotiations before the Japanese establish themselves on Russian soil.

With Manchuria entirely abandoned to the Japanese and Vladivostok as Russia's solitary sentinel on the Pacific, it is realized that Russia will be practically at Japan's mercy in the matter of peace terms.

It can now be definitely stated that the decision to appoint Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievitch to the supreme command in the far East was reconsidered because the outlook at the front does not warrant the risk of compromising the prestige of a member of the imperial family.

Military authorities here believe that unless General Linevitch is sure of his ability to hold the lower Sungari line he will risk his whole army if he fortifies and concentrates there, as if he should be defeated his line of retreat lies to two sides of a triangle, the third side of which is open to the enemy's advance.

At the general staff the view that General Linevitch may be compelled to abandon Harbin and retire towards Lake Balkal, leaving Vladivostok to its fate, is regarded as almost unwarranted by anything that is officially known there, it being pointed out that Field Marshal Oyama will have a long and laborious task to bring up an army of 300,000 or 400,000 men.

Meanwhile Russian reinforcements are arriving at Harbin at the rate of 1,200 men per day. Nevertheless, it is significant that there is now a well marked peace party at the war office.

TURNING MOVEMENTS.

Reports Persist That the Japs Are on Russian Flanks.

Gunshu Pass, March 24.—General Linevitch, the new commander-in-chief

of the army, yesterday received members of his staff.

Reports persist of Japanese turning movements on both flanks of the Russian army. Chinese state that the Japanese have recruited many Chinese bandits, and that probably they are now able to count a superiority in cavalry as well as in infantry.

The branch of the Russo-Chinese bank has been removed from Kirin to Harbin after an attack on the bank office in which two of the guards were wounded with cobblestones.

Captured Japanese report that a terrible affray took place in the streets of Mukden on March 10, when a big detachment of Russians, the last to leave the city, were entrapped by Chinese bandits and a few Japanese soldiers, who closed the city gates and blocked the narrow streets. According to the report, which is not confirmed, not a Russian escaped.

Field Marshal Oyama has communicated to General Linevitch the news that the entire Russian medical staff which remained in Mukden after the evacuation, is uninjured and well.

SECOND PACIFIC SQUADRON.

No Light Thrown on Its Movements and No News.

London, March 24.—No further news has been received here throwing light on the movements of the Russian second Pacific squadron.

The report from Port Louis, island of Mauritius, that during the night of March 16, a Russian torpedo boat preceded a squadron of warships had been sighted by a vessel arriving there from Colombo, Ceylon, is considered too vague to afford basis for judgment, but if the fleet seen was Vice Admiral Rodzestvensky's they must already be within some 500 miles of Colombo, and hence must have left Mombasa much earlier than has been supposed.

THIRD BALTIC FLEET.

Accompanied by a Number of Colliers It Has Reached Port Said.

Port Said, March 24.—The Russian third Baltic fleet composed of one battleship, three coast defense iron clads and one cruiser arrived here accompanied by a number of colliers. The fleet is apparently to join Rear Admiral Rodzestvensky's fleet.

NOT GUILTY VERDICT.

Former Minnesota Legislator Acquitted on Charge of Grand Larceny.

Buffalo, March 24.—Alonzo J. Whiteman of Danville, N. Y., and former member of the Minnesota legislature, was last night acquitted on the charge of grand larceny. The jury returned the verdict of "not guilty" after spending 38 hours considering the evidence and balloting. There are still five indictments against Whiteman, and he was remanded to jail at the request of District Attorney Coatsworth. The remaining indictments are on charges of grand larceny, "three counts" forgery and attempted larceny. All these charges are based on the transaction involved in the trial just ended and Whiteman's attorneys last night expressed the utmost confidence in the final release of their client.

It is charged that Whiteman secured \$2,000 on an alleged fraudulent draft for \$6,000 deposited with the Fidelity Trust company of Buffalo. Joseph Boothman, an Englishman, who is under indictment in connection with the same transaction, was the principal witness for the prosecution.

MYSTERY BROUGHT TO LIGHT.

Body of West Virginia Girl Found by Man She Was to Marry.

Wheeling, W. Va., March 24.—Mystery surrounds the death of Miss Hulda Schubert, whose dead body lying in a gully about 20 yards off Chapline Hill road, near this city, was found yesterday by Frank Smith, an iron worker, who is reported to have been engaged to be married to the girl.

The autopsy over the remains last evening revealed the fact that one of the arteries in her neck had been ruptured, presumably in a struggle. The girl's watch and chain and two rings are missing.

CHILD IN CHIMNEY.

Girl Admitted It Was Hers But That It Died Soon After Birth.

Rochester, March 24.—Two boys found the body of a male infant, about seven weeks old, in the chimney of an old house at Canandaigua. The police last night questioned a girl named Iva Gustine, who admitted the child was born to her and died. It was placed in the chimney because the ground was so hard the person to whom she gave it for burial was unable to dig a grave.

JULES VERNE DEAD.

Died This Afternoon After Being in a State of Coma for Some Time.

Amein, March 24.—Jules Verne died this afternoon. He had been in a state of coma for some time and for several hours the end was expected. He was born in 1828.

NOTED SCULPTOR DEAD.

Signor Paracchi, One of Most Famous of Modern Times.

Milan, March 24.—Signor Paracchi, one of the best known sculptors of modern times, is dead.

PUGILIST WAS KILLED

John Hill Died in Hospital This Morning.

OPPONENT WAS ARRESTED

Hill Collapsed in Sixth Round of Bout With "Kid" Dorsey — The Seconds and Manager of Philadelphia Club Arrested.

Philadelphia, March 24.—The hospital authorities this morning announced that but little hope was entertained for the recovery of John Hill, the boxer, who collapsed in the ring last night, in the sixth round of a contest with "Kid" Dorsey. Both pugilists are colored, and a short time later the pugilist died.

Hill died at 10:40 this forenoon. Dorsey, the seconds, and Lewis Calkley, the proprietor of the Brown Athletic club, where the contest took place, are under arrest.

BANKRUPTCY ROAD HARD.

Several Creditors Object to Discharge of Alston Bradley.

Burlington, March 24.—An examination of Alston Bradley of Williston, who filed a petition in bankruptcy, was made yesterday by Attorney R. E. Brown for Jones & Isham of this city and Martin, Pierce & Co., creditors, before Referee George W. DeBorville. These creditors object to Bradley's discharge and after the hearing yesterday filed specifications of objection.

The first allegation in the specifications is that Bradley, while a bankrupt, concealed from the trustee property belonging to the estate, not returning it in his schedule. The property in question consists of live stock, machinery, farm implements, etc., valued at \$1,200. The second allegation is that he made a false oath in his schedule by swearing that he had no assets, when he was in reality possessed of the property mentioned in the first part of the specification.

The third charge is that on February 6, 1904, while a bankrupt, he attempted to convey to his wife all the property mentioned in the first part of the specification for the purpose of avoiding payment to his creditors. A hearing on these specifications will be held later.

CLOSED TRAP ON HIM.

American Checker Champion Conquered By Former World's Champion.

Boston, March 24.—Yesterday's play in the international checker tournament resulted in the British visitors further increasing their lead over their American hosts. Hill scored the only two wins made by the Americans, but in the evening he was defeated once by Hynd.

The feature was the defeat of Barker, the American champion, by Ferrie, former world's champion, in the afternoon. Ferrie led Barker into a trap and when the American had once snugly ensconced himself in what appeared to be an impregnable position, the Britisher closed the trap and took the game.

Eighth day's score—Britishers, 6; Americans, 2; drawn, 22. Total score—British, 57; Americans, 25; drawn, 235.

STRANGE ACTIONS.

Brooklyn Man Lived in Tomb With His Wife's Body.

New York, March 24.—Unconscious and apparently dying, aged Jonathan Reed, a retired business man of Brooklyn, was found lying on the stone floor of his wife's granite tomb in the cemetery of the Evergreens yesterday and his removal to a hospital followed. He had suffered a stroke of apoplexy as he sat in the lonely enclosure. It is said he has a fair chance of recovery.

After the death of his wife, seven years ago, Reed applied to the cemetery authorities for permission to place a cot in the tomb so he could spend all his time there. This being refused he furnished the tomb and spent his days there, carrying on imaginary conversations with the dead.

CHAMPS DEFEATED.

Pets of Boston and Pride of Fans Humiliated by Macons.

Macon, Ga., March 24.—The Boston American baseball club, champions of the world, were beaten yesterday afternoon by the Macon pennant winners of the South Atlantic league, 7 to 3; hits, Macon 9, Boston 7; batteries, Segars and Dovey, Sessions and Olmsted.

GETS PAPAL BENEDICTION.

General Charles Tracy of Albany, N. Y., Had It Cabled to Him.

Albany, N. Y., March 24.—General Charles Tracy, a former member of Congress, died this morning after an illness of several months. Pope Pius cabled to General Tracy Monday last the papal benediction, an honor conferred on prelates on their death beds.

MURDERER HANGED TODAY.

New Orleans, March 24.—Louis J. Lyons, the murderer of District Attorney J. Ward Guerry, was hanged this morning in the yard of the parish prison. The crime was committed in July, 1903.

FLAT REFUSAL TO ARBITRATE

Castro Will Not Meet United States to Settle Matter.

HIS ANSWER INSULTING

Administration Here Admits That It Is Facing a Grave Crisis as the Result of Receipt of the Letter.

Washington, March 24.—Word has been received by the state department that President Castro formally refuses to arbitrate the questions at issue between the United States and Venezuela.

The text of Castro's communication to Minister Bowen has not been made public, but at the state department it is announced that its tone is practically insulting.

Much feeling is evinced by administration officials at the reply. The dispatch was thoroughly discussed at a cabinet meeting today, and it is admitted that the reply has brought a crisis in the situation. Mr. Bowen does not say that he has been dismissed from Venezuela, but his relations are so strained that it is almost beyond question that he will be recalled to this country even if Castro does not follow up his answer by handing passports to Minister Bowen.

FOUND IN RUINS.

Patrick Mahoney of Portsmouth, N. H., Burned to Death.

Portsmouth, N. H., March 24.—The farm house of John Murphy of this city on the Baunfield road, was destroyed by fire yesterday forenoon, and Patrick Mahoney was burned to death. At 10 o'clock a telephone message was received from the Winchester farm on the Lafayette road that a house was on fire, and the chemical engine was ordered out by Chief Randall, but before it got to the place the building had been destroyed.

The building was a story and a half structure, and the cause of the fire given was a defective chimney.

After the ruins of the building had cooled, the body of Mr. Mahoney, who was an occupant of the house, was found in the cellar.

SECOND DEATH.

William Green of Rutland Died of Spotted Fever This Forenoon.

Rutland, March 24.—The second death from spotted fever occurred today, the victim being William Green, aged 23 years. He leaves a widow and two children.

BROKEN WHEEL CAUSED ACCIDENT.

Windsor, March 24.—A freight wreck on the Boston & Maine railroad, about two miles from here, in Cornish, N. H., yesterday morning, delayed the morning trains several hours. No one was hurt. The accident was caused by a broken wheel.

WILLIAMSTOWN.

Special convocation of Charity Chapter Monday evening, March 27th. All members are requested to be present.

Miss Freda Bannister has recovered from lagrippe and is able to be out again.

Rev. Walter Davenport gave a temperance lecture at the town hall last evening.

Lewis Seaver narrowly escaped a serious injury Wednesday while out driving, being thrown from the sleigh.

Mrs. Ira Gale died yesterday after several months' illness. She had been cared for by a niece, Miss Penniman, until within a short time, when they have had a nurse. Mrs. Gale leaves an aged husband, who has the sympathy of all in his sorrow.

Hiram Drury met with a very serious and painful accident yesterday while handling wood from his Adair Swamp lot to his house, in some way being caught by a hook, tearing skin, flesh and muscle from the right leg near the knee. Dr. Watson was obliged to take over fifty stitches before the wound could be done up. He is as comfortable as could be expected.

WEBSTERVILLE.

Peter Shambo is laid up with an abscess under his arm.

H. F. Cruickshank is very sick with bronchitis, threatened with pneumonia.

R. G. Barney started work in his quarry Wednesday after having been shut down all winter.

Thomas Nerney and wife returned Wednesday evening from Boston, where they went on their wedding trip. They will reside here.

Edwin Ross, our popular young barber, has returned from spending his winter vacation in some of the prominent cities in northern Canada. He is to board with his employer, James Genke, so we will be able to get a scrape any time during the day or night.

GRANITEVILLE.

All candidates for the I. O. O. F., M. U. lodge in Graniteville are requested to meet for initiation in Miles' hall Monday evening, March 27. The initiatory work will be done by the grand officer from Massachusetts, assisted by the Barre lodge officers.

FOR GOLF SEASON.

Barre Club Adopts Recommendations Concerning It.

At the adjourned meeting of the Barre Golf club, held last evening, a resolution relating to the carrying out of tournaments, etc., for the coming season was adopted. Among the provisions agreed upon are, the holding of the weekly tournaments on two days of the week, each player to elect at the beginning of the season on what day of the week he is to play and being confined to that day under any condition. The annual tournament is to be played in the month of August. The "opening day" is to come the first of the season, and a programme for that day is recommended. The method of handicapping was revised also.

C. M. Walley, who was elected president at the annual meeting, thought he could not spare the time for the position, but as the club insisted, he decided to accept the office on condition that the committee give him hearty co-operation.

DIED IN BOSTON.

W. B. Mussey, Long Time Merchant of Rutland, Died Last Night.

Rutland, March 24.—W. B. Mussey, who for many years conducted a grocery store in this city, died at the Homeopathic hospital, Boston, at 7:30 o'clock last night. Mr. Mussey, who for the last year has been living with his daughter, Mrs. Walter Jackson of Dorchester, Mass., contracted pneumonia about two weeks ago and was taken to the hospital. For a long time his right leg had been troubling him greatly and after his arrival at the hospital it was decided that the leg would have to be amputated. He sank rapidly after the operation and died last night.

Besides his daughter, Mr. Mussey leaves a son, Charles W. Mussey of Chicago, who was sentenced to serve seven years in the House of Correction on the charge of embezzling the funds of the Mercantile National bank of this city but was later pardoned by President McKinley on account of sickness.

HEARING CONTINUED.

Of Case of Barre Man Who Is Being Held in Burlington.

Burlington, March 24.—At a hearing before Clerk George E. Johnson yesterday, at which J. L. Martin, district attorney, was present, bail in the case against C. J. Beauchamp, against whom an indictment was brought for fraudulent use of the mails, was reduced from \$500 to \$100 and this amount was furnished, Beauchamp being released, C. P. Cowles becoming surety.

At the same time bail in the case against Hubert Bernard, who was charged with smuggling a horse into this country from Canada, was reduced from \$300 to \$100 and this was furnished by Augustine Merrier. John Matson, who was charged with bringing foreigners into this country unlawfully, and three Russians, Anne Caski, John Caski and Victor Seymour, who are charged with being here unlawfully, were also taken before Commissioner Johnson but the hearings in their cases were continued.

REVOLUTION DAUGHTERS MEET.

Pleasant Occasion at Home of Mrs. J. A. DeBoer Last Evening.

Montpelier, March 24.—The members of Marquis de Lafayette Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, with gentlemen, were very pleasantly entertained last evening by Mrs. J. A. DeBoer at her spacious home on Western avenue. A pleasing programme was rendered, a feature of which was a song lecture by the Rev. A. N. Lewis, rector of Christ church, in which the history of several of the earlier songs of the century was told and the songs were sung by Mr. Lewis. Refreshments were served at the conclusion of the programme.

UNITING TWO CHURCHES.

Prospects Seem to Point to It in Randolph — Members Decide Soon.

Randolph, March 24.—The standing committee of the Congregational church, consisting of W. A. Jones, A. B. and E. W. Tewksbury, W. F. Howard, A. J. Huse, A. H. Powers, N. W. McCollom, J. Marcott and E. T. Salisbury met Wednesday evening with the three deacons of the Christian church, J. H. Lamson, Dr. E. O. Blanchard and William Mann, with M. M. Wilson, and discussed the matter of the union of the two churches very favorably and decided to refer the subject to a meeting of both societies to be held next Wednesday evening.

ARRESTED IN BARRE.

This Man Was Released at Middlebury — No Case Against Him.

Middlebury, March 24.—One Richardson, who was arrested by Sheriff Cobb in Barre a few days ago and brought to this town, was arraigned before Justice W. H. Sheldon on a charge of embezzling money that came into his possession as agent for a Chicago Crayon company and was discharged, as the complainants were unable to make out a case against him.

IMPROVEMENT CONTINUES.

Burlington, March 24.—Bishop A. C. A. Hall who was operated on for appendicitis continues to improve. As the wound heals somewhat slowly, the bishop cannot yet sit up at all, and it will probably be some time before he will be allowed to leave the hospital. But his general condition is excellent, indeed quite unusual after such an operation.

WHEELWRIGHT A BANKRUPT.

Burlington, March 24.—Fred Marsailles, a wheelwright of Middlebury, filed a petition in bankruptcy yesterday. He has liabilities of \$548 and assets of \$20, all of which are claimed exempt.

SUCCESSOR TO OAKES

Capt. Hayes of Brattleboro Probable.

REPORT NOT CONFIRMED

Man Spoken of Has Been Connected With the Brattleboro Retreat—Prison Directors Have Apprehensive Power.

Windsor, March 24.—A report was passed around last night that the board of prison directors has appointed as the successor of Superintendent Oakes at the State prison Captain Hayes of Brattleboro, who has been connected with the Brattleboro Retreat. It was impossible to reach any of the directors of the prison so there was no confirmation of the report.

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

Died This Afternoon at Home of Son, W. T. Campbell.

Robert Campbell died at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon at the home of his son, William T. Campbell of Dewey street, after an illness with pneumonia. The deceased was a brother of the late Calvin Campbell of Hyde Park, who passed away last month.

He was born in Bradford, N. H., 85 years ago next month. He lived for many years in Hyde Park, coming to this city seven years ago to live with his son. He leaves, besides his son, one daughter, Alletta P. Campbell, of Hyde Park.

The funeral arrangements will be announced later.

DEATH FROM PNEUMONIA

Vincelli Polli, Aged 18 Years, Died Last Night.

Vincelli Polli, aged 18 years, died at 5 o'clock last evening at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. Polli of Lewis street. The cause of death was pneumonia.

The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from 43 Lewis street, and the burial will be in Hope cemetery.

BASKET BALL.

Y. M. C. Team Against V. A. C. at Miles Hall This Evening.

The Vermont Athletic club is the Norwich variety or first team, playing under the above name. Owing to the fact that they are upon a vacation, the school being at present closed, they cannot play under their own name. At present they are in the lead for the championship of Vermont. This means that you can expect to see the hottest and fastest game ever witnessed in this city, as our boys are also playing for all the honors going. Come one and all and you will get your money's worth. This is genuine.

The game is to be played in Miles' hall this evening at 8 o'clock. Gentlemen 25 cents, ladies 15c.

CUT ON THE HEAD.

John O'Connell of This City Hurt at Montpelier Today.

John O'Connell of this city, who is employed at the stone shed of Ryle & McCormick at Montpelier, met with an accident just before noon today, striking his head against a chisel. A long gash was cut in the left side of the head and forehead. He was carried to the firm's office and a physician was summoned. Later he was able to come to his home in this city.

BOWLING TONIGHT.

Owl Club Team of St. Albans Will Come Tonight.

The bowling game in the Intercity league which was to have been played at Montpelier last evening between the O'Learys and Independents was postponed to March 30, on account of Trenoweth of the O'Learys being sick. Tonight at Alexander's alleys a picked team will play the Owl club team of St. Albans at candle pins and also a postponed game of the Intercity league will be bowled.

You Have the Right Idea.

Barre is asking for a new Central Vermont depot, says the Morrisville News and Citizen. That hustling granite city ought to have what it asks for in this direction, for the reason that it is one of the best points on the Central Vermont system and the business it gives the Central entitles it to something better than the so-called "dry goods box."

Postponed to Saturday Night.

Montpelier, March 24.—The stone cutters' union did not conclude with the discussion of the new constitution last night, and the meeting was adjourned to Saturday evening.

G. C. N. U. Meeting.

A special meeting of the Barre Branch G. C. N. U. will be held in the opera house tonight at 7 o'clock. Important. A. M. Smith, Sec.